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ABSTRACT

This report presents (in a non-technical way) the process the Carnegie Hall program evaluators used to assess student learning during the 1996-1997 LinkUp! Program. Although the report contains documents that are specific to that particular year's theme, the process and examples included may be helpful to educators in other arts organizations who are designing program evaluations specifically to assess what students have learned as a result of their involvement in a program. The report suggests the following practical steps to assess student learning in any arts program: (1) agreeing on instructional goals; (2) designing assessment activities; (3) arranging to do assessment activities; (4) carrying out assessment activities; (5) defining learning dimensions and creating scoring guides; (6) evaluating student work; and (7) analyzing data and reporting results. A workbook section of the report demonstrates how the evaluators applied the scoring guides to the recorded examples of student compositions and student worksheet responses. The report provides several examples of student compositions on an accompanying CD to use with the workbook material. With the CD and workbook pages, an educator should be able to listen to a recorded example, review, and apply the scoring guide used for each of the four worksheet questions. A rating is provided for each response along with a rationale at the end of the worksheet examples. (BT)

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